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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

(7-15 April 1992)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

to be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 7 April 1992

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Work of the Commission as a whole since the forty-sixth session (Commission decision A (46)) and implementation of decision O (45):

   (a) The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities since the forty-sixth session (Commission resolution 2 (XXV) — E/ECE/1251

   (b) Report of the Chairman on the ad hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission held since the forty-sixth session (decision P (45))

   (c) Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission — 1/

   (d) Cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions — E/ECE/1255

1/ For documentation on this item see the explanatory notes to the Provisional Agenda.

(e) Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy — E/ECE/1254

(f) Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist countries of the region which are developing from the economic point of view and developing countries of other regions — E/ECE/1256

(g) Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly — E/ECE/1257

3. Review of the economic situation in Europe

4. Follow-up action on relevant Commission decisions:

(a) Cooperation in the field of economic analysis and assistance to countries in transition (Commission decision B (46)) — E/ECE/1258

(b) International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant (Commission decision C (46)) — E/ECE/1259

(c) Cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development (Commission decision E (46)) — E/ECE/1260

(d) Cooperation in the field of transport (Commission decision F (46)) — E/ECE/1261

(e) Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Commission decision L (45)) — E/ECE/1262

5. Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe — E/ECE/1263

6. The future work of the Commission in regard to cooperation in the ECE region, particularly in the light of Commission decision O (45) — E/ECE/1264

7. Programme of work for 1992-1996 — E/ECE/1265

8. Other business

9. Election of Officers

10. Annual Report of the Commission

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE AGENDA

General

1. Taking into account the indications given at the forty-sixth session of the Commission (E/1991/36, paragraph 259), the relevant decisions of the Economic and Social Council and subsequent consultations with the Officers of the Commission, the period from Tuesday, 7 April, to Wednesday, 15 April 1992 has been reserved for the forty-seventh session of the Commission.

2. In accordance with Rule 3 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the basic documents referred to in the Provisional Agenda will, wherever possible, be transmitted to Governments "not less than forty-two days before the opening of the session", i.e. not later than 24 February 1992.

3. The Order of Business for the forty-seventh session of the Commission is annexed hereto. It has been drawn up by the Executive Secretary in accordance with established practice, pursuant to the relevant decisions of the Commission. The necessary practical arrangements have been made for the setting up by the Commission of the Sessional Committee (paragraph 9 of Commission resolution 5 (XXIV)).

4. As is customary, the Executive Secretary will deliver an opening statement.

5. The Executive Secretary intends to make the necessary arrangements for an advance distribution of any draft resolutions or decisions which might be submitted to the secretariat by their sponsors prior to the session. The texts of draft resolutions or decisions submitted during the session should be communicated to the Executive Secretary at least 24 hours before the item comes up for discussion in order to enable him to examine their financial and other implications and to report thereon, as is his duty, to the Commission before the resolution or decision is adopted.

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

According to Rule 7 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, "the first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda". According to Rule 8, "the Commission may amend the agenda at any time".

Item 2: Work of the Commission as a whole since the forty-sixth session and implementation of decision 0 (45)

This item provides an opportunity for general statements by delegations on the work of the Commission as a whole since the forty-sixth session, with particular regard to the provisions of Commission decision 0 (45) on the activities of the Economic Commission for Europe.

(a) The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities since the forty-sixth session

For the consideration of this subitem the Commission will have before it the Executive Secretary's report prepared pursuant to Commission resolution 2 (XXV) on the Commission's activities since the forty-sixth session (E/ECE/1251) and implementation of priorities, namely environment, transport, statistics, trade facilitation and economic analysis, as defined in decision O (45). Under this subitem the Commission will also have available to it the Executive Secretary's report (E/ECE/1252) on the harmonization of approach among secretariat Divisions and on the encouragement of adequate exchanges of information among Principal Subsidiary Bodies regarding proposed initiatives and work programme elements having environmental aspects, prepared in accordance with decision O (45). In addition the Executive Secretary will report to the Commission (E/ECE/1253) on the implementation of decision J (45): EDIFACT, as requested by the Commission at its forty-sixth session (see document E/ECE/1247, para.246). EDIFACT will be discussed in the Sessional Committee.

(b) Report of the Chairman on the ad hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission held since the forty-sixth session (decision P (45))

The Chairman will report to the Commission on the outcome of the ad hoc informal sessions of the Commission convened by the Chairman since the forty-sixth session in accordance with decision P (45). The Commission will have available to it the summaries of the sessions (ECE/AC.20/91(2)/1 and (3)/1).

(c) Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission

In accordance with established practice the consideration of this subitem will take place in two stages:

(i) The Sessional Committee will examine in detail the reports of Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission; the discussion of each report will, wherever possible, be introduced by the Chairman of the body concerned. 2/

(ii) The report of the Chairman of the Sessional Committee to the Plenary on the outcome of the Committee's deliberations (see the Provisional Order of Business) will include a summary of discussion of subitem 2(c).

2/ As in the past, the secretariat will make available informally to the participants at the Sessional Committee the texts of these introductory remarks in the language in which they are delivered.

Under this subitem the Committee is expected to comment on, and eventually approve, the reports of the Commission's Principal Subsidiary Bodies and Working Parties during the period under review, as listed below: 3/

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments (twenty-seventh session)	ECE/EC.AD/38
Committee on Agriculture (forty-third session)	ECE/AGRI/118
Timber Committee (forty-ninth session)	ECE/TIM/59
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems (fifth session)	ECE/ENVWA/23
Committee on Human Settlements (fifty-second session)	ECE/HBP/83
Committee on the Development of Trade (fortieth session)	ECE/TRADE/178
Committee on Energy (first session)	ECE/ENERGY/18
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (nineteenth session)	ECE/SC.TECH/42
Inland Transport Committee (fifty-fourth session)	ECE/TRANS/94
Conference of European Statisticians (thirty-ninth session)	ECE/CES/38
Working Party on the Chemical Industry (first session)	ECE/CHEM/83
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation 4/	
Working Party on Standardization Policies (first session)	ECE/STAND/34
Working Party on Steel (first session)	ECE/STEEL/76

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(d) Cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions

The Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1255 submitted under this subitem will contain an account of developments concerning the cooperation and coordination of activities of the Commission and its secretariat with other international organizations and institutions during the past year, with particular emphasis on those active in the ECE region and cited by the Commission in its decisions.

3/ No additional distribution of these reports will be made but a sufficient number of copies will be available to delegations in the Conference Room for reference purposes.

4/ No session of this body has been held since the forty-sixth session of the Commission.

(e) Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy

Under this subitem the Commission will consider the Executive Secretary's report (E/ECE/1254) on the activities of subsidiary bodies and the secretariat during the past year in this respect, particularly the programme of workshops and other forms of assistance to countries in transition. This report will cover mainly the practical and sectoral activities of the subsidiary bodies and the secretariat, as requested by the Commission under paragraph 4 of decision B (46). The subject will also be discussed in the Sessional Committee under item 4(a).

(f) Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist countries of the region which are developing from the economic point of view and developing countries of other regions

For the consideration of this subitem the Commission will have before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1256 in which an account is given of the progress made in the work of the Commission and its secretariat in the past year in respect of technical cooperation activities, including those carried out in cooperation with the other regional commissions and donor organizations.

(g) Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly

The Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1257 will contain appropriate references to relevant resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly during the period since the close of the forty-sixth session of the Commission which call for action by the Commission or otherwise have a bearing on its work.

Item 3: Review of the economic situation in Europe

Under this item the Commission is expected to consider and discuss the economic situation in the ECE region. In order to enable the Commission to concentrate on key problems of economic policy and of international economic cooperation, it is suggested that delegates, in their statements under this item, devote particular attention to major economic problems and developments in their country and to the international aspects thereof.

For consideration of this item, the secretariat will make available its Economic Survey of Europe in 1991-1992 (ECE(47)/1) as well as Volume 42 of the Economic Bulletin for Europe. The Survey will contain the regular current review of economic developments in the ECE region in 1991-92. To promote an exchange of views on this item the secretariat will also issue, ahead of the pre-publication text of the Survey, an overview of the main development issues and policies contained therein.

In their statements under this item delegates may wish to avoid, as far as possible, giving detailed information on developments in their individual countries. It is hoped that delegations will give such information in writing, and those wishing to do so are invited to transmit their statements to the secretariat as early as possible (preferably in about 50 copies) so that these may be distributed to the participants at the session.

Item 4: Follow-up action on relevant Commission decisions:

(a) Cooperation in the field of economic analysis and assistance to countries in transition (Commission decision B (46))

For its consideration of this subitem the Commission will have before it a report by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1258) on the implementation of decision B (46) with regard to action taken by the Commission's subsidiary bodies and the secretariat to assist countries in transition to a market economy and in connection with the secretariat's programme of economic analysis. (See also items 2(b) and 6 for additional information on the Commission's activities to assist countries in transition.)

(b) International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant (Commission decision C (46))

In considering this subitem the Commission will have before it the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1259) prepared pursuant to paragraph 4 of Commission decision C (46) and the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly (A/46/215).

(c) Cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development (Commission decision E (46))

In considering this subitem the Commission will have before it the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1260) prepared pursuant to paragraph 19 of Commission decision E (46). In addition, the Commission will have available the Executive Secretary's report on the harmonization of environmental approaches (E/ECE/12) (see item 2(a)).

(d) Cooperation in the field of transport (Commission decision F (46))

In considering this subitem the Commission will have before it the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1261) prepared pursuant to paragraph 14 of Commission decision F (46).

(e) Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Commission decision L (45))

In considering this subitem the Commission will have before it the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1262) prepared pursuant to paragraph 8 of Commission decision L (45), taking into account the results of the Palma de Mallorca Meeting.

Item 5: Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe

In accordance with preambular paragraph 3 and operative paragraph 2 of decision A (46) and its previous resolutions, the Commission will have before it for the consideration of this item the report of the Executive Secretary

(E/ECE/1263). The report will take into account, for the future work of its Principal Subsidiary Bodies, the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Concluding Documents of the Vienna Meeting 1986, including the Sofia Meeting on the Environment, the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation in Europe and the Palma de Mallorca Meeting, which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE, as well as the Charter of Paris for a New Europe. The Commission may also wish to take into account the preparations and proceedings of the CSCE Follow-up Meeting which opens in Helsinki (Finland) on 24 March 1992.

Item 6: The future work of the Commission in regard cooperation in the ECE region, particularly in th light of Commission decision O (45)

This item will be discussed in both the Plenary and the Sessional Committee, where it will be discussed together with item 7: Programme of work for 1992-1996. The Commission will have before it a report by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1264) on the prospective activities of the Commission with particular regard to the provisions of decision O (45).

Item 7: Programme of work for 1992-1996

For the consideration of this item the Commission will have before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1265 which will contain a draft programme of work for 1992-1996, supplemented by factual information on such questions as meetings, reports and other documentation, as required by decision O (45). Under this item the Commission may wish to review the ECE Medium Term Plan for 1992 to 1997, adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session,in accordance with decision A (44): Work of the Sessional Committee.

Item 8: Other business

Under this item the Commission may wish to consider a revision of its terms of reference, with particular regard to Article 7 on Membership. The Commission will also hear a statement by the Executive Secretary concerning the date and place of the forty-eighth session of the Commission.

Item 9: Election of Officers

According to Rule 13 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, as amended at the forty-second session, at the closing meeting of its forty-sixth session the Commission elected Mr. Andrei A. Ozadowski (Ukraine) Chairman and Mr. William Rossier (Switzerland) Vice-Chairman of the Commission's forty-seventh session. The Commission also elected Ms. Jutta Wolke (Germany), Chairman and Mr. Vladimir Atanassov (Bulgaria) Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee. Since Mr. Atanassov is no longer available to hold office, a new Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee shall be elected at the opening of the Commission session. At the closing session of the forty-seventh session the Commission will elect its officers for the forty-eighth session.

Item 10: Annual Report of the Commission

A draft of the Introduction, Chapter I (Issues that require action by, or are brought to the attention of, the Economic and Social Council) and Chapter II (Work of the Commission since the forty-sixth session) of the Annual Report as well as a note on arrangements for the preparation of the remainder of the Draft Report will be circulated by the Executive Secretary (ECE(47)/D.Rep.1). The draft of Chapter III of the Annual Report, which will contain an account of the proceedings of the Plenary and the Sessional Committee, will be prepared in the course of the session by rapporteur(s) to be appointed by the Commission and assisted by the secretariat.

ANNEX

PROVISIONAL ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

In accordance with the established practice for the allocation of items of the agenda for consideration by the Plenary or the Sessional Committee, it is proposed that:

(i) Items 2(a), (b), (d) to (g), as well as items 5 and 6 will be discussed together in the Plenary.

(ii) On the occasion of the setting up of the Sessional Committee the Chairman will propose to the Commission that items 2(c), 4(a) to (d), 6 and 7 be allocated for preliminary consideration by the Sessional Committee.

(iii) Item 4(e) will be discussed in the Plenary.

(iv) Item 6 will be discussed in both the Plenary and the Sessional Committee

To avoid an overlap with the general debate in the Plenary, scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, 7 and 8 April, consideration of the work of the subsidiary bodies dealing with activities in the five priority areas defined in decision O (45) has been scheduled to start after the conclusion of the general debate (i.e. the afternoon of Wednesday, 8 April).

The Sessional Committee will take into account any suggestions concerning draft decisions which might be put forward on any items by the Executive Secretary in the relevant documents, and will thereafter recommend decisions for consideration and adoption by the Plenary. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee, when reporting to the Plenary on the outcome of the deliberations of that Committee (during the resumption of the general discussion under items 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7), will transmit these recommended decisions to the Plenary for subsequent adoption. The Plenary will thereafter consider and adopt decisions on the relevant items.

Disposition of items and tentative time-table

TUESDAY, 7 APRIL

Plenary

10.00 am Opening of the forty-seventh session of the Commission

Adoption of the agenda
(Agenda item 1)

Setting up of the Sessional Committee and allocation of items for its consideration

Election of Officers (Agenda item 9)

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Work of the Commission as a whole since the forty-sixth session and implementation of decision O (45)
(Agenda item 2, including subitems (a), (b) and (d) to (g))

To be discussed together with

Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe
(Agenda item 5)

and

The future work of the Commission in regard to cooperation in the ECE region, particularly in the light of Commission decision O (45)
(Agenda item 6)

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TUESDAY, 7 APRIL (cont.)

	Plenary	Sessional Committee
3 pm	Work of the Commission as a whole since the forty-sixth session and implementation of decision O (45) (Agenda item 2, including subitems (a), (b) and (d) to (g))(continued)	Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission (Agenda item 2(c)) (Preliminary consideration)
	To be discussed together with	* * *
	Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe (Agenda item 5)	The future work of the Commission in regard to cooperation in the ECE region, particularly in the light of Commission decision O (45) (Agenda item 6) (Preliminary consideration)
	and	To be discussed together with
	The future work of the Commission in regard to cooperation in the ECE region, particularly in the light of Commission decision O (45) (Agenda item 6)	Programme of work for 1992-1996 (Agenda item 7) (Preliminary consideration)
	* * *	* * *
		Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (Agenda item 2(c))
		* * *
		Working Party on the Chemical Industry (Agenda item 2(c))
		Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (Agenda item 2(c))
		Working Party on Standardization Policies (Agenda item 2(c)
		Working Party on Steel (Agenda item 2(c))
		* * *

WEDNESDAY, 8 APRIL

Plenary

Work of the Commission as a whole since the forty-sixth session and implementation of decision O (45) (Agenda item 2, including subitems (a), (b) and (d) to (g))(continued)

To be discussed together with

Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe (Agenda item 5)

and

The future work of the Commission in regard to cooperation in the ECE region, particularly in the light of Commission decision O (45) (Agenda item 6)

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Review of the economic situation in Europe (Agenda item 3)

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Sessional Committee

Timber Committee (Agenda item 2(c))

Committee on Agriculture (Agenda item 2(c))

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Committee on Energy (Agenda item 2(c))

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Committee on Human Settlements (Agenda item 2(c))

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International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant (Agenda item 4(b))

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Committee on the Development of Trade (Agenda item 2(c))

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EDIFACT (Agenda item 2(a))

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THURSDAY, 9 APRIL

Plenary

Review of the economic situation in Europe
(Agenda item 3) (continued)

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Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe
(Agenda item 4(e))

* * *

Sessional Committee

Inland Transport Committee
(Agenda item 2(c))

To be discussed together with

Cooperation in the field of transport
(Agenda item 4(d))

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Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems
(Agenda item 2(c))

To be discussed together with

Cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development
(Agenda item 4(c))

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Conference of European Statisticians
(Agenda item 2(c))

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FRIDAY, 10 APRIL

Plenary	Sessional Committee
No Meeting	Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments (Agenda item 2(c)) To be discussed together with Cooperation in the field of economic analysis and assistance to countries in transition (Agenda item 4(a)) * * * The future work of the Commission in regard to cooperation in the ECE region, particularly in the light of Commission decision O (45) (Agenda item 6) (resumed) To be discussed together with Programme of work for 1992-1996 (Agenda item 7) * * *

MONDAY, 13 APRIL

Plenary	Sessional Committee
No Meeting	No Meeting

TUESDAY, 14 APRIL

Plenary

Work of the Commission as a whole since the forty-sixth session and implementation of decision O (45)
(Agenda item 2, including subitems (a), (b) and (d) to (g)) (resumed)

Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe
(Agenda item 5) (resumed)

The future work of the Commission in regard to cooperation in the ECE region, particularly in the light of Commission decision O (45)
(Agenda item 6) (resumed)

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Statement by the Chairman of the Sessional Committee on the outcome of its deliberations on items 2(c), 4(a) to (d), 6 and 7

Conclusion of the discussion under agenda items 2, 4, 5 and 6

Programme of work
(Agenda item 7)

Other business
(Agenda item 8)

WEDNESDAY, 15 APRIL

Election of Officers
(Agenda item 9)

Adoption of draft resolutions and decisions

Annual Report of the Commission
(Agenda item 10)

Conclusion of the forty-seventh session of the Commission